

REMARKS

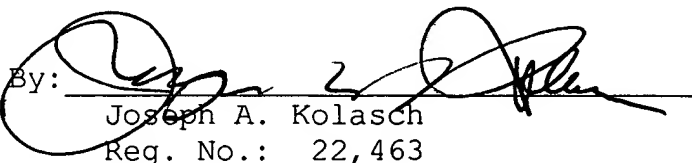
Claims 24-40 are pending in the above-identified application.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this matter, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned, who may be reached in the Washington D.C. area at (703) 205-8000.


If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By: 
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